

SET FREE BUT DISAPPROVED

1 Cor 10:1-10

Our freedom in Christ will have an effect on our lives.

Morris: ...*the enjoyment of high privileges does not guarantee entry into final blessing. The Israelites experienced redemption, baptism and God's continuing succor. Yet nearly all perished in the wilderness.*

It is possible to be saved and not enter the joy of the Lord.

I. Position (1-4): Children of Israel had it made.

A. All under the cloud. 1 Cor. 10:1

All- without exception

Israel's liberation from Egypt (Ex 13)

God led them and protected them by the cloud by day the pillar of fire at night (13:21).

The cloud: The Shechinah--symbol of God's divine presence and protection that went with them.

B. All passed through the sea. 1 Cor 10:1

Illustration of the power of God found throughout the scriptures.

As Israelites pressed from behind by Egyptians they looked ahead to Red Sea.

Couldn't save themselves.

God supernaturally departed the sea

C. All were baptized 1 Cor. 10:2

Baptism in scripture

1. Ordinance: water. Picture of the death, burial, resurrection of Christ.

2. Spiritual Identification: sense of "dedicating, identifying, consecrating, initiating, bringing under obligation to.

Under the cloud and sea the people were brought under obligation to the Law, Moses, covenant.

Consecrated and set apart to serve God and Moses as their leader.

Redpath: *They were made into an entity, a community, and ultimately into a great nation.*

Grom: *Separate individuals were forged into one nation under the supernaturally appointed leader, Moses.*

Comparison: when a person puts his faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ.

D. All ate the spiritual meat 1 Cor. 10:3

Spiritual: Supernatural and symbolic of Christ.

40 years God provided Israel with manna.

Ex. 16:14

Ps 78:25 Angels' food

Erdman: *...in baptism had pledged themselves to be followers of Christ; ...in the Supper of the Lord they had been partakers of his grace.*

Parallel to us as a church? One body... have seen Holy Spirit do awesome things ...great evidences of His power through the years.

E. All drank of the spiritual water. 1 Cor. 10:4

Exo 17:11

Water supplied for Israel 2 times in their wanderings:

First time: Ex 17. First year

Second time: Num 20:1 40th year.

... that followed them: wherever they went God provided water.

And that rock was Christ. That rock from which the water flowed is a representation of Christ

Gromaki: *They all shared in the supernatural provision for thirst. It was spiritual drink in that it typified Jesus Christ, who was smitten on the cross to provide the waters of everlasting life (Jn 4:14; 6:35; 7:37-39)*

Paul saying --Your position is very secure.

II. Israel overthrown (5-6)

Even though they were set free, even though they had the assurance of the divine protection and security of God they became the recipients of God's wrath.

Van Gorder: *It is dangerous to enjoy the blessings of God's providence yet presume upon His grace.*

1 Cor. 10:5 But: on other hand...the opposite

With many: understatement! Caleb, Joshua did not enter promised land. Moses and Aaron disqualified.

God was not well pleased: offended at them for their ingratitude and independent spirit of rebellion.

... overthrown in the wilderness. To spread out.

Wherever they went the desert was covered with graves and dead corpses of the disobedient ones.

Grom: *God was pleased with their covenant position in the fathers (Abr, Isaac, Jacob), but He was "not pleased" with their practice.*

Erdmans: *...in spite of their unique position and mercies the Israelites proved unfaithful; ...indulgence in meat which had been offered to idols,*

while innocent in itself, might become the occasion of severe temptation before which even they might fall.

Lesson: **1 Cor. 10:6**

Not simply History 101 of nation of Israel.

A valuable lesson for us

Examples tupoi – types, figures. A divinely appointed prophetic symbol.

Antitype: fulfillment of a type

All types refer, in some way, to the Lord Jesus Christ

Martin: *1 Cor 10 is one of the key NT passages on typology.*

Israel lusted after the flesh and God gave it to them with consequences.

Many died in a plague.

Israelites became unfit, disqualified, castaways because they didn't keep under their bodies and bring them into subjection.

III. Practice (7-10). Overthrown because of 4 major sins.

A. Idolatry 1 Cor. 10:7

Reference to time Aaron erected a golden calf and people worshipped it.

People discontent and restless as Moses upon mountaintop with God.

... sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. They substituted play time for prayer time.

Self-satisfaction for something real.

Took sacrifice away from serving God and made it comfortable and easy.

Eating and drinking: always accompanied pagan feasts.

And rose up to play: euphemism for sexual relations

Gen 26:8 – caressing

Exo 32:28-- 3,000 put to death.

Idolatry--putting any thing before God.

God gave Israel enough food to take care of all their needs but they wanted more...

Their sin was in not being content with provisions God gave

Psalm 106:15

Mac: *Any concept of God that is not biblical is false, and if believed and followed it becomes an idol.*

B. Fornication – sexual immorality 1 Cor. 10:8

Do you want to be discredited like children of Israel?

Then get involved in sexual immorality.

Idolatry and sexual immorality go hand in hand.

Before a person gets involved in illicit sex he has to change his view of God.

C. Tempted Christ 1 Cor. 10:9

Tempt Christ: to try His patience; to provoke His anger in such a way as to see how much He will bear, and how long He will endure the wickedness and perverseness of men Barnes

Num 21: children of Israel became weary of their journey.

Lost their vision of the Promised Land.

Pushed the limits of God's grace.

They were *making an experiment on the grace of Christ.* Barnes

Mac: *They had no concern for pleasing God, only for His pleasing themselves. They did not use their new freedom to serve Him better but to demand that He serve them better.*

.... and were destroyed of serpents.

D. Murmuring. 1 Cor. 10:10

We have been let down. We are victims.

Instead of being led to the promised land we are dying in the wilderness

Num 16 Korah, Dathan, Abiram, and their followers murmured (criticized and complained against God's man)...God opened up the ground and swallowed them...

People criticized Moses...God sent the DESTROYER and killed 14,700 of them.

A Christian murmurs when he shows dissatisfaction with the will of God for his life.

Murmur: to mutter against; to complain

SO WHAT?

Position— Morris: *...the enjoyment of high privileges does not guarantee entry into final blessing. The Israelites experienced redemption, baptism and God's continuing succor. Yet nearly all perished in the wilderness.*

Overthrown— Van Gorder: *It is dangerous to enjoy the blessings of God's providence yet presume upon His grace.*

Practice--not consistent with their position

Israelites became unfit, disqualified, castaways because they didn't keep under their bodies and bring them into subjection.